
A wealthy couple in Florida have paid \$150,000 for what a South Korean laboratory claims is the world's first commercially cloned dog. Lancelot Encore is reportedly an exact duplicate of a family pet that died last year. Andy Gallacher reports from Florida:

Several years ago Edgar and Nina Otto **froze** the **DNA** of their dog, Lancelot. When he died last year, the couple were **devastated** and they decided to get **a clone** produced by a South Korean laboratory.

The **biotech** firm Best Friends Again claim that Lancelot Encore, as they've named the new **puppy**, is the world's first commercially cloned dog. The laboratory in South Korea, BioArts, includes a scientist that lost his research professorship at Seoul University in 2004, after **fraudulently** claiming he'd cloned human **embryos** and **stem cells**.

The new owners here in Florida say they're happy with their new dog and don't plan to clone any others.

It's thought that between three and four million unwanted dogs are killed at **shelters** across the US every year.

Andy Gallacher, BBC News, Miami

Vocabulary and definitions

froze	here, preserved by exposing to cold
DNA	short for deoxyribonucleic acid, the substance that carries any organism's genetic information
devastated	greatly upset
a clone	a genetically identical organism developed by the reproduction of a cell taken from the parent organism
biotech	short for biotechnology - the use of living things, e.g. cells and bacteria, in industrial processes
puppy	a young dog
fraudulently	dishonestly, with the intention to deceive
embryos	organisms in their earliest stages of development
stem cells	undifferentiated cells (i.e. immature, primitive cells that have not yet developed a specific structure and function) that can give rise to other cells of the same type
shelters	here, a shelter means a refuge for animals, i.e. an establishment that takes in and looks after lost or unwanted animals

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